

Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

OSRAM Sylvania Inc.

**1 Jackson Street
Wellsboro, PA 16901
Congressional District 5
EPA ID #: PAD003046794
Last Update**

Current Progress at the Site

On October 22, 1993, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Osram Sylvania Inc. entered into an Administrative Order on Consent (Order) to proceed with an investigation of existing environmental conditions at the facility. The focus of this investigation centered around the southern portion of the facility where chromium plating wastewater was disposed of directly to a former dry well in this area. This practice was terminated before OSRAM acquired the Facility in 1981. In 1989, approximately 85 cubic yards of soil heavy in trivalent chromium and hexavalent chromium were removed from this former dry well area, and the area backfilled. This interim measure was successful in removing the source material of chromium leading to groundwater. Historical groundwater monitoring at the facility over the past ten years suggests that hexavalent chromium in the groundwater is attenuating through natural reductive processes, and does not pose a threat to either human health or the environment.

EPA issued the Final Decision for this facility on October 30, 2003. Osram will continue to monitor the groundwater on-site twice per year for the next three years to verify the stability and attenuation of the plume. The most recent sampling was conducted in December and the results indicate that the plume remains stable. Osram has placed a notice in the property deed to alert any future landowners that the groundwater cannot be used for drinking purposes. This notice can be found at the Tioga County Recorder of Deeds, 116 Main Street, Wellsboro, PA.

Site Description

The OSRAM Sylvania Inc. facility is located at the intersection of Austin and Jackson Streets in the borough of Wellsboro, Pennsylvania.

Believed to have been constructed in 1886 by the Columbia Glass Company, the facility is over 103 years old and occupies approximately 20 acres of property. Today, the OSRAM Sylvania Inc. facility primarily produces lime glass envelopes (the glass portion of incandescent light bulbs), which are then sold to off-site customers for final assembly.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at the Facility are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region 3.

Contaminants

The main contaminants of concern at the facility are dissolved hexavalent chromium and arsenic in the groundwater.

Community Interaction

OSRAM Sylvania Inc. developed a community relations plan to provide a means of communicating the objectives, plans and findings of the investigation to appropriate community resources. Informational meetings were held with key community leaders at the facility to discuss the investigation and to answer questions. A walking tour of the facility perimeter was also offered to identify locations of areas where investigative activities were focused. EPA received no comments from the public on the Final Decision.

Institutional Controls

Institutional controls are not required at this time.

Government Contact

EPA Branch Chief
Mr. Paul Gotthold - 3WC22
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
Phone: (215) 814-3410
Email: gotthold.paul@epa.gov

For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm